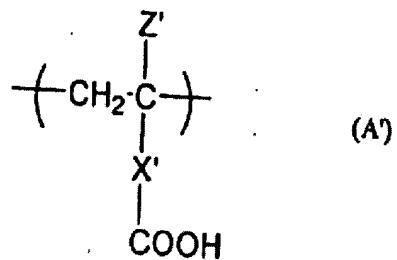


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

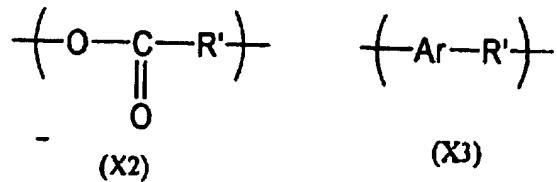
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A heat-sensitive lithographic printing plate precursor comprising a support having thereon two image-forming layers each containing a polymer insoluble in water and soluble in an aqueous alkaline solution, wherein the~~a~~ⁿ upper layer of the image-forming layers contains a copolymer including a monomer unit represented by formula (A') shown below and an infrared absorbing dye,



wherein Z' represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group, and X' represents an arylene group, which may have a substituent, or one of the structures represented by formulae (X2) and (X3) shown below,



wherein Ar represents an arylene group, which may have a substituent, and R' represents a divalent connecting group.

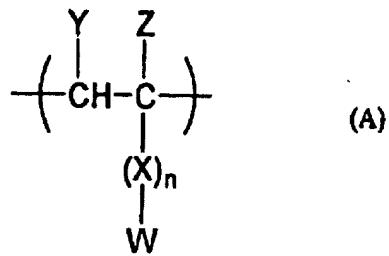
Claim 2. (canceled).

3. (original): The heat-sensitive lithographic printing plate precursor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the copolymer further contains a monomer unit derived from a monomer selected from a (meth)acrylate, a (meth)acrylamide derivative and a styrene derivative.

Claim 4. (canceled).

5. (previously presented): A heat-sensitive lithographic printing plate precursor comprising:

a support having thereon two image-forming layers each containing a polymer insoluble in water and soluble in an aqueous alkaline solution, wherein an upper layer of the image-forming layers contains a copolymer including a monomer unit represented by formula (A) shown below and a dissolution inhibiting compound,



wherein W represents a carboxy group, X represents a divalent connecting group, Y represents a hydrogen atom or a carboxy group, Z represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or a carboxy group, or W and Z or Y and Z may be combined with each other to form an acid anhydride group of -(CO)-O-(CO)-, and n represents 0 or 1.